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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1982-1983

REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS

Administrative and financial implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/37/L.22/Rev.2

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

- 1. The First Committee, at its 45th meeting held on 26 November 1982, adopted the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/37/L.22/Rev.2. It had before it a statement of financial implications (A/C.1/37/L.70).
- 2. Under the terms of draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/37/L.22/Rev.2 of 16 November 1982, the General Assembly, noting with appreciation that in pursuance of resolution 35/142 B, the Secretary-General has submitted the report S-12/7 dealing, inter alia, with the question of comparing and verifying military expenditures and containing several useful conclusions and recommendations for the promotion of further progress in this field, and considering also that the study of this question should be followed by a practical exercise in order to explore it further with a view to facilitating future negotiations aiming at the conclusion of international agreements on the reduction of military expenditures, would, inter alia,
- (a) request the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of qualified experts and with the voluntary co-operation of States, to undertake the task of constructing price indices and purchasing power parities for the military expenditures of participating States. (This task should encompass a study of the problem as a whole ...);
- (b) request the Secretary-General to submit progress reports to the General Assembly at its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions, and a final report to the fortieth session;

- (c) request the Secretary-General to provide the group of experts with the necessary assistance and Secretariat service;
- 3. To carry out the requested requirements, the Secretary-General intends to appoint eight qualified experts who would hold two sessions in 1983 of one and two weeks respectively (14-18 March and 15-26 August 1983 in New York), two sessions of two weeks' duration each in February and August 1984 (New York) and two sessions of three and one week respectively in 1985 (New York).
- 4. Provided hereunder are estimated conference-servicing costs in connexion with the work of the expert group:
- (a) The meetings of the group of experts would require provision of interpretation in six languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) and pre-session, in-session and post-session documentation of a total volume of 1,450 pages in six languages, however, depending on the final composition of the group, the actual requirements for both services may subsequently be reduced. The relating conference-servicing costs would be as follows:

	1983 \$	1984 \$	1985 \$
Pre-session documentation (40,000 words)			
(Languages: A, C, E, F, R, S)	-	-	94 700
Meeting servicing			
(Languages of interpretation: A, C, F, F, R, S)	135 000	180 000	180 000
In-session documentation (336,000 words)			
(Languages: A, C, E, F, R, S)	225 800	328 700	236 000
Post-session documentation (304,000 words)			
(Languages: A, C, F, F, R, S)	204 700	252 100	251 300
OGS requirements	15 600	15 600	15 600
TOTAL	581 100	776 400	777 600

- 5. Total estimated conference-servicing costs resulting from the draft resolution would amount to \$2,135,100, of which \$581,000 pertain to 1983, \$776,400 to 1984 and \$777,600 to 1985. The estimates are based on 1983 rates.
- 6. Provided hereunder are estimated non-conference-servicing costs in connexion with the work of the expert group:

- (a) Based on the assumption that the experts will be paid travel and daily subsistence allowance at the D-l level and that the 1983 sessions will last for three weeks, the duration of the 1984 sessions would be of four weeks, and those of 1985 of four weeks, the costs of travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance involved will amount to \$47,800 in 1983, \$54,200 in 1984 and \$54,200 in 1985.
- (b) Consultant services at the equivalent of P-5 level will be required for a total period of eight months (one consultant for two months in 1983, one consultant for four months in 1984 and one consultant for two months in 1985), to prepare bibliographies, to compile economic data, to write individual chapters on specific technical subjects and to co-ordinate the preparation of the draft and final report. Associated fees and travel costs are estimated at \$16,000 for 1983, \$26,500 for 1984 and \$16,500 for 1985.
- (c) Statistical expert services are required for this task at the equivalent of P-3/4 level for four months (one month in 1983, two months in 1984 and one in 1985) to undertake the statistical aspects of the report and to assist in the preparation of the final report. Associated fees and travel costs are estimated at \$9,500 for 1983, \$14,000 for 1984 and \$10,200 for 1985.
- 7. Accordingly, total estimated non-conference-servicing costs resulting from the draft resolution would amount to \$248,900, of which \$73,300 pertain to 1983, \$94,700 to 1984 and \$80,900 to 1985.
- 8. The total estimated costs of implementing the draft resolution as indicated above are \$2,384,000, out of which the estimated conference-servicing costs (\$2,135,100) are based on full-costs, at current rates. The 1984 and 1985 portions of the requirements would be dealt with in the context of the proposed budget for the biennium 1984-1985. Toward the close of the present session of the General Assembly, when the definitive pattern of conferences for 1983 is considered, it will be indicated in the consolidated statement of conference-servicing requirements to be submitted at that time to what extent the costs in respect of conference-servicing in 1983 (\$581,100) dealt with in this document can be absorbed within existing resources. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution contained in document A/C.1/37/I.22/Rev.2 an additional appropriation of \$73,300 under Section 2 would be required for travel and consultants.